

'MAD MULLAH' GIVES KLAN SECRETS

SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE SAUCE FOR THE GANDER

Benadum Defends Liquor Violator On Medicine Plea

There's one thing about Clarence Benadum, and that is that he generally has his say, and he doesn't give a darn whether anybody else believes him or not.

Just at present he is taking a few pot shots at the governor and attorney general whom he helped elect, because of what he terms their hypocritical attitude on the liquor question.

Clarence is openly and avowedly wet. He says the liquor law of the state should be modified. He is getting up some sort of a petition to present to the governor, which he hopes will help some.

Wednesday Mr. Benadum defended Homer Hurley, who was charged with being in possession of two quarts of liquor.

Mr. Hurley predicated his defense on the theory that whisky is a medicine and that he had procured the liquor that was found on his premises in the neighborhood of Daleville for medicinal purposes.

The jury heard his evidence, listened to the impassioned plea of his attorney, and then marched out to the jury room and found the defendant guilty.

Unfortunately the jury did not render an extensive opinion. Under the circumstances nobody knows, except the jurymen themselves, whether the jury believed whisky is a medicine, or otherwise.

Possibly the jury believed Hurley, but differed with the attorney general, who asserts that he and the governor bought whisky to save the lives of members of their families.

And then, on the other hand, they may have disbelieved him. Or, possibly, they believed him, but doubted that even if he had bought it for the purpose he asserts, that he had the right to do so.

Or from another angle, the jury, in the absence of testimony from expert medical men, who might have testified both for and against the use of whisky, may have refrained from passing on the question of the therapeutic value of wool alcohol and confined themselves, solely, in finding as they did, on the evidence which seemed conclusive, that Hurley had the liquor in his possession and that the law defines the possession of liquor in Indiana as a crime.

Mr. Benadum, attorney for Hurley, does not seem inclined to let the matter drop. He seems to believe that if whisky is a medicine, his client had as much right to use it and as much right to be believed, as the attorney general.

As the leading light in the "Constitution Preservation Society," he proposes to carry this assumed right of his client to the high administrative and executive officers of the state, and ask them, point blank whether sauce for the goose may not be properly considered sauce for the gander.

And in the meantime, while this great fight is waging, and while the "best minds," who never attended medical school and can't tell the difference between paregoric and epsom salts, are deciding the question for everybody, the great mass of the people will continue to call in the family doctor, instead of the family bootlegger, to administer to the ills of their ailing ones.

The Truth Has Never Yet Been Told

(By Clell Maple.)

I observe, in the Press a notice by The Knights of American Protestantism, purporting to be a national patriotic fraternity, with national headquarters at 325 East Washington street, calling upon the Sunday School classes recommending an early consideration and was signed by Orion Norcross, National Secretary.

If now is, and ever has been, my motive to help to upbuild society and the Christian religion, lest some Sunday School or class might be misled I want briefly to let the public know how the Knights of American Protestantism came to exist if it does exist. On or about the 25th of February, 1924, the local Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, No. 4, split. Practically all of the officers went with one side of the split, and obtained a charter from the secretary of state for an organization to be known as The Klan of the North.

That name was unsatisfactory and it was suggested and the name changed to the Independent Klan of America. Well, we took over at the time of the split something like \$7,100 in cash, two one thousand dollar Liberty bonds and all the office furniture and fixtures, as they say in the call for the National Convention, valued at \$3,000, and cash to the amount of \$3,000, but Mr. Benadum and Mr. Norcross testified, at the Klan trial at Portland, last summer, that there was no cash left after the debts of the local K. K. K. was paid, but within the past year the call says after winning a court action they came in possession of all this money paid out for old debts made by the

K. K. K. before the split.

The fact is there were no old debts left by them, or if so it was never reported to the board. Well, we went on. We had six local presidents elected within 14 months. Each was to serve for one year. Orion Norcross was Secretary, S. H. Benadum was National President.

Our membership decreased from something like 1,400, reported by Norcross, to about two hundred. Some one asked for the books to be audited, and it was so ordered. However before the report was made the National President, S. H. Benadum, locked the doors on the local No. 1, and was regularly appointed meeting night, and took up their charter, as he said, because there were some traitors in the order. Under the Constitution, they should have been given a trial, but there was never any charges preferred against any member of I. K. A. No. 1.

Well, I consented to a reorganization of the local No. 1, and was chosen its president by 79 members present. All were for reconciliation, but the National President and National Secretary.

Well I lasted about the usual time with Mr. Benadum. When he could not run the local and me we ended the local chapter here so far as Benadum was concerned.

But the boys whom he locked out with a few exceptions, have still held together as the only original local I. K. A. No. 1, which they are, and have a suit pending at Winchester for recovery of that

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"It Won't Be Long Now"

"It won't be long, now," until us politicians will be getting down to brass tacks, in preparation for the presidential election of 1928.

The primary election will be held next May. Besides the selection of presidential candidates, officials from governor down will be nominated, including congressmen, one United States senator, state senator, members of the lower house and county officials.

Last fall Delaware county democrats made a remarkable showing, electing both candidates for county commissioner, six of the twelve township trustees, and many minor officials in the various townships.

Considering the fact that Delaware county is normally from five to seven thousand republican, the election last fall constituted a great democratic victory, and the prospects are that the job will be completed next year.

The citizens of Muncie and Delaware county have simply rebelled against machine republican rule and have turned to the democratic party for relief from conditions which have become unbearable.

On January 1, Lewis E. Acker, of Perry township, will succeed John Truitt on the board of commissioners. His democratic colleague, Joseph Mann, took office the first of last January.

After the first of next January the board of commissioners will be democratic and the conduct of the affairs of the county will be in the hands of men who have the interests of the taxpayers, and not the tax grabbers, at heart.

It is up to the democratic party to see to it that only men and women of the highest calibre are selected as candidates next spring.

If the democratic party expects to live up to its promises it must name candidates who are above reproach. The people here have turned to the democrats for relief, and nothing should be done to place the party under suspicion.

Let us put up a good ticket, make a clean fight and win.

Lita Neglected Home; Children, Film Star Says

Los Angeles, Cal., June 3.—Charlie Chaplin, yesterday leaped into the divorce battleground which had been dominated by his wife, Lita Grey Chaplin, for nearly five months and took up the fight by firing a broadside of denials and counter charges in a 100-page cross complaint and answer to his wife's suit.

Mrs. Chaplin was charged by her husband with defiantly associating for a long period of time with two young men whom he did not name, with frequent intoxication, neglect of their two children, extravagance and fortune seeking.

President Calles' Wife Dies in U. S.

Los Angeles, Cal., June 3.—Senora Natalia Calles, wife of the president of Mexico, died at the California Lutheran hospital here at 3:20 P. M. Thursday following a major operation a week ago.

Her death came unexpectedly. Earlier in the day her physicians had issued bulletins stating she was well recovering from her operation and predicted she would be able to leave the hospital in two weeks.

Senora Calles entered the hospital about a week ago suffering from an ailment of the stomach. She was operated on last Saturday. Until late Thursday, when she suffered a relapse, her condition had not been regarded as serious.

Resignation Report Denied by Sheffield

Mexico City, June 3.—On the eve of his departure for the United States, Ambassador James R. Sheffield issued a formal denial of reports from Washington that he had resigned his post as American envoy to Mexico.

In view of press reports regarding my alleged resignation," said the ambassador "I desire to state that I have not resigned. I have deemed it a privilege to carry out the policies of President Coolidge and Secretary Kellogg, with which I am in complete accord."

Owing to illness, Pres. Calles canceled an appointment with Sheffield Thursday at which time the ambassador had intended to pay his respects before departing.

Out of the Melting Pot.

When laws are passed making it a crime to save the life of your wife or children, it is time the dogs were kicked out of the mangers.

From the way the common people have been picked by the present administration, the notorious Hole-in-the-Wall, in the Black Hills, would be the proper place for the head of the gang to spend his summer vacation. It has been the resting place of many a bandit in the past.

The reason parents of today prefer daughters to sons, is because girls can get a job and boys can't.

If the people really want to get even with Sinclair, the man who engineered the Tea-Pot Dome steal, they should entice him to come to Indiana, plant a quart of white mule on him, and call the sponge squad.

Men used to get married for love. Now they get married to provide themselves with a meal ticket.

The great trouble with the world today, is that too many people have millionaire minds and thirty cent incomes.

Any man who would hesitate for one moment to break a law to save the life of his wife or children is not worthy to be called by the name of man. Especially a law that was forced thru the legislature by a lot of old meddlers.

"God Bless The Mothers." We hope He does. For there are so many mothers today that are compelled to hustle for the beans and bacon, to provide food for their children, that they certainly need to be blessed by someone.

June is the month for brides. We advise all young men, and old, who have been persuaded to become the dishwasher for some blushing June bride, that they be sure their future meal ticket has a permanent position. Otherwise their beautiful ship of matrimony will be wrecked on the rocks of debt.

There should be a law passed, and enforced, that any factory owner who employed a woman, (unless that woman was a widow with a family) be given not less than ten years of hard labor, as long as there was an idle man that could do the work required. This kind of a law would go a long ways to insure the nation better homes, better and stronger children and more happiness.

The Wright Bone dry law, surely made Indiana a harvest field for bootleggers, who make and distribute forked lightning at so much per quart. Still there are some people who raise their hands in holy horror if a modification of this law is hinted at. We wonder if these holy ones are engaged in the making or selling of forked lightning?

There is a flood of crude oil in this country that is fast draining the oil fields of the nation. Yet the government does nothing to stop this wanton waste of the people's future needs.

It takes gas to run an airplane, but if we allow the oil from which gas is made to be wantonly wasted, it will not be long until airplanes will be about as useful as an armless man at a hugging match.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF LIBERTY TO CELEBRATE

Victory Council No. 22 Sons and Daughters of Liberty, will hold their state convention, Tuesday, June 7, in Neely Block. The various Councils will be present—Hammond, Gary, South Bend, Whiting, Marion, Fort Wayne, Bluffton, Logansport, East Chicago and Elwood, giving the work to twenty-five candidates.

The out-of-town guests will number from two to three hundred. Muncie is the home of our present State Councilor, Sylvia Grant. The opening address will be delivered by the National Councilor, of Pennsylvania.

About three-fourths of China's population dresses in blue. More than 20,000 persons die of snakebites in India in a year. One of the history books of ancient Egypt is a papyrus roll of 133 feet long.

North Manchuria has one stretch of well paved roadway about eighty miles long. It is estimated that 4,000,000 women in the United States do not use cosmetics.

New Book, Written By Anomous Ex-Klansman Exposes Indiana Klux-Control ---One Chapter Reveals Grand Jury Testimony Given At Brookville By Court Asher and Editor of Post-Democrat.

"The Mad Mullah," a book written by a former klansman, and which purports to give the inside history of the Klan in Indiana and elsewhere, is causing considerable comment.

The book attacks Governor Jackson, Senator James E. Watson and many other Indiana politicians, both democrats and republicans, and while it accuses D. C. Stephenson of committing most of the crimes in the calendar, it places him among the immortals and declares that he will go down in history as being one of the most remarkable men of this or any other age.

The chapter of the book which begins on page 237, is devoted to a discussion of a grand jury proceeding which took place at Brookville, which is of great interest to this newspaper, because the editor of the Post-Democrat was one of the witnesses subpoenaed.

Many of the things which we did not understand at the time, are now made clear. It will be remembered that the Post-Democrat published an account of Editor George R. Dale's strange experience before that grand jury, but there was one thing we did not do, and that was to publish the things that were said in the grand jury room.

The author of "The Mad Mullah" was not so squeamish about it. In the chapter in question it gives, verbatim, the testimony of George R. Dale and what purports to be the testimony of Court Asher. We know the author had it right as far as the testimony of the editor of this newspaper is concerned, and assume that he was also correct as to the testimony of Asher.

According to "The Mad Mullah," Asher was asked by the prosecutor, Elmer Bossert, a brother of Walter Bossert, at that time grand dragon of the Indiana Klan, if he knew George R. Dale, which he answered in the affirmative.

"What is his business?" was the next question asked, to which he answered, "raising hell, principally." "What kind of a fellow is Dale?" was then asked. "Oh, he's a degenerate," said Asher. Asked if Dale was a newspaper man, Asher replied that "some people think he is."

Asher testified that he was employed by the Klan as a secret service, or "G-2" man, and that he worked under orders of D. C. Stephenson. "Do you know Walter Arnold?" asked the prosecutor. "Yes," replied Asher, "he was working for Steve also. I met him once when he came to Muncie under orders from Steve to put something or other over on Dale."

Then followed the testimony offered by George R. Dale, who was asked if he knew Court Asher and what the latter's business was. "The answer was, 'I know him. His business is that of Klan bootlegger at Muncie.'"

Other questions were asked, evidently for the purpose of developing some sort of a connection between D. C. Stephenson and the editor of the Post-Democrat. John K. Jenkins, of Evansville, a Catholic, had written a letter in which he declared that the wife of Walter Bossert was a Catholic. It was charged by Bossert that Stephenson wrote the letter and that Jenkins signed it.

Just at that time the Klan held one of its parades in Muncie. Bossert, the grand dragon, was here, and the Post-Democrat carried a first page story to the effect that Bossert's wife was a Catholic. At that time we had no acquaintance with D. C. Stephenson and had no knowledge whatever of the Jenkins letter.

Assuming that there was a connection the grand dragon's brother subpoenaed the editor of the Post-Democrat and in questioning him, according to "The Mad Mullah," went deeply into the question of the ownership of the Post-Democrat and the authorship of the first page story which discussed the affairs of the grand dragon.

Later the editor of the Post-Democrat became acquainted with D. C. Stephenson. "I had my men at Brookville that day," said Stephenson, "and hell would have been paid to put anything over on you. I had my men there and I had a report on you from the time you left Muncie for Brookville in your automobile up to the time you left the court house and drove out of Brookville."

"Do you know what they did to you and me down there that day?" inquired the "old man."

"No," was the reply, "what did they do to us?"

"We were both indicted for conspiracy to libel Walter Bossert, but I put something over on them and they didn't have the nerve to come out with the warrants."

Two weeks after the Brookville incident the editor of the Post-Democrat received a letter from a man in San Antonio, Texas, who was formerly a high official in the national headquarters of the Klan

at Atlanta. In this letter the former Klan official said that he had information from a man close to Hiram Wesley Evans that there was one county in Indiana that was so completely dominated by the Klan that the prosecutor could have any man in the state indicted and sent to the penitentiary, or could summon any citizen to appear before its grand jury.

The man said Evans told him that it did not necessarily mean that the Klan could convict its victims in that county, but it could rule them financially and otherwise through its control of the Klan officials of the county.

The point of interest in the chapter of "The Mad Mullah" referring to the Brookville grand jury, is the fact that the author, who confesses himself to be a former klansman, closely in touch with Indiana Klan intrigues, should have been placed in possession of the stenographic notes of the short hand reporter who took down the evidence of Court Asher and Geo.

The assumed name of the author is Edgar Allen Booth, but the real name is kept hidden. The proceedings of a grand jury are secret. It is a felony to divulge the grand jury transactions. Every member of the Brookville grand jury was a klansman. The prosecutor, Elmer Bossert, was a klansman. His brother was the grand dragon.

The testimony given there, reduced to typewriting, was naturally placed in the hands of the prosecuting attorney. How did it get out of his hands and in the hands of an author who publishes it in a book? If the editor of the Post-Democrat had divulged the grand jury questions and answers he would probably have been ordered arrested at once by the imperial wizard.

Some day the entire story will be written. It should be written. The ugly organization which controlled courts and grand juries and ordered editors to penal servitude who failed to knuckle to the wizard, needs a real probe in Indiana, and if the publisher of this newspaper survives his ordeal at the state penal farm, the probe will come.

C. & O. RAILWAY MAKES NEW RECORD

Richmond, Va.—A daily average of 54.9 miles per car per day was the record made by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway during the month of April, according to an announcement by W. J. Harahan, President, today. While this record does not equal the unusual performance of March when the high average of 58.3 was maintained, or even of February when the figure was 56.8, yet it is 4.9 miles better than the January record, and very much ahead of the average made by the railroads in general, which has never yet reached the 35 miles per car per day figure.

The increase in the speed of delivery is one of the notable contributions by the Chesapeake and Ohio and the other carriers to the business and economic life of America. When it is recalled that in 1920 the Chesapeake and Ohio was averaging only 35 miles per car per day, the gain in speed up to the figures reported for these recent months takes on a new significance.

In considering the figures given concerning car movement, it must be remembered that they indicate a much greater movement of the cars actually in motion, as they include the entire car supply, those in shops for repairs, those placed for delivery and all others.

Popular tests for distinguishing between edible mushrooms and poisonous varieties are not reliable. Cellulose products used as window glass substitutes because they are more transparent to ultra-violet light lose their superiority in this respect when they become brownish in color. Mt. Ranier at one time was a seething volcano.